

# Health News Release

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### State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

#### **Chelan County**

In June 2012 the Physical Therapy Board amended the statement of charges against physical therapy assistant **Andrew Paco Lopez** (P160045837). In 2011, Lopez was convicted of third degree child assault for assaulting his nine-week old child. The child sustained multiple fractured ribs and bleeding on the brain.

#### **Clark County**

In May 2012 the Nursing Commission charged **Karla Bouvette** (RN00072833) with unprofessional conduct. Bouvette allegedly failed to comply with a previous stipulation.

In April 2012 the Pharmacy Board ended the probation order against pharmacist **Jasmine T. Nguyen** (PH00067943).

#### **King County**

In May 2012 the Massage Program granted the credential application of **Shannon Jeanne Beatty** (MA60274064). Beatty was convicted of driving under the influence in 2003 and hit-and-

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run injury in 2004. Beatty also entered into a deferred prosecution for a charge of driving under the influence and a charge of reckless endangerment in 2011. Beatty must comply with terms and conditions set against her credential.

In June 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program withdrew the February 2012 statement of charges against certified nursing assistant **Rhoda W. Karuga** (NC10095279).

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Dominique Well** (RN00124421, AP30006054-FNP).

In June 2012 the Medical Commission amended the statement of charges against physician **Jonathan V. Wright** (MD00011394). Wright allegedly failed to submit patient records as requested by the commission and allowed an unlicensed individual to use his office to treat patients.

## **Kitsap County**

In April 2012 the Dental Commission charged dental assistant **Teresa Marie Brakefield** (D160028485) with unprofessional conduct. Brakefield was allegedly fired from two dental office jobs for being under the influence at work, and for repeated prescription fraud and substance abuse.

In May 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the credential application of chemical dependency professional **Krissy Merrion Remeto** (CP60246706). Remeto must comply with terms and conditions set against her credential.

#### **Okanogan County**

In June 2012 the Secretary of Health withdrew the May 2012 statement of charges against physical therapist **Justin L. Schober** (PT00008835).

#### **Pierce County**

In May 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended the probation order against chemical dependency professional trainee **Richard Lawrence Bingham** (CO60153376).

In May 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the credential application of chemical dependency professional **Steven Helmut Fischer** (CP60213201) and placed it on probation until October 2014.

In May 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program withdrew the February 2012 statement of charges against certified nursing assistant **Janet Wanjiku Williams** (NC60058759).

In May 2012 the Veterinary Board of Governors released veterinarian **Roy P. Wright** (VT00000971) from terms and conditions set against his license.

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## **Skagit County**

In May 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Benjamin B. Fernandes** (NA60194934) with unprofessional conduct. Fernandes allegedly was found in possession of oxycodone without a prescription. He was also convicted of solicitation to possess a controlled substance — oxycodone and driving under the influence in 2011.

### **Snohomish County**

In May 2012 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **Alex W. Styles** (CH00002335) with unprofessional conduct. In 2011 Styles was convicted of second-degree theft and making false statements.

## **Thurston County**

In June 2012 the Nursing Commission withdrew the October 2011 statement of charges against licensed practical nurse **Nancy M. Jansen** (LP00033384).

In May 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program ended the probation order against registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **John Daniel Koelker** (NA60093844, NC60256799).

In April 2012 the Licensed Mental Health Counselor Program denied the credential application of **Leslie Ellen Korn** (LH60160553). She didn't meet requirements for an exemption.

In May 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Kelly James Knittle** (CO60278515) and placed it on probation for three years. Knittle was convicted in 2003, 2004, and 2007 of unlawful possession methamphetamine and of third-degree theft in 2007.

#### **Whitman County**

In June 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered and certified nursing assistant **Lisa Ann Aase** (NA00098511, NC60202013) with unprofessional conduct. Aase allegedly stole about five fentanyl patches from patients. She was convicted of possession of a legend drug without a prescription in 2011. The Department of Social and Health Services found that Aase financially exploited vulnerable adults, and she can no longer work in a job that involves the care of vulnerable adults.

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## **Yakima County**

In May 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Yesenia C. Sandoval** (NA00199121, NC60024832) with unprofessional conduct. Sandoval allegedly abused, assaulted, and neglected a resident while working at an adult family home. The Department of Social and Health Services found that Sandoval abused and neglected a vulnerable adult, and she can no longer work in a job that involves the care of vulnerable adults.

#### Out of state

**Idaho**: In May 2012 the Massage Program granted the credential of **Jason Robert Griffin** (MA60261274) and placed it on probation for three years. Griffin was convicted of second-degree arson in 2004, petit theft in 2009, and shoplifting in 2010.

**Montana**: In June 2012 the Nursing Commission withdrew February 2012 charges against registered nurse **Jason C. Shaffer** (RN00161748).

**North Carolina**: In May 2012 the Medical Commission released physician **Robert L. Schneider** (MD00030677) from terms and conditions set against his license. His license is unrestricted in Washington.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

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